

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 2, 3, 5 and 6 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claim 1, 4, 7 and 8, and add Claims 9 and 10, to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording head comprising:

an element base plate provided with plural discharge energy-generating elements for generating ~~[[a]]~~ bubbles in liquid by thermal energy, and a through-opening becoming a supply chamber for leading liquid to said discharge energy-generating elements; and

a flow-path-forming base plate (i) for forming (a) plural bubbling chambers containing said discharge energy-generating elements, respectively, ~~on the face~~ a surface of said element base plate having said discharge energy-generating elements formed thereon, and (b) plural supply paths for leading liquid to ~~each of~~ said bubbling chambers, respectively, and (ii) having plural nozzles provided therefor corresponding to said bubbling chambers, respectively, to enable ~~each of~~ said bubbling chambers to be communicated with the outside of the head, wherein

a diameter of each of said nozzles is not greater than a distance between the surface of said element base plate on which said discharge energy-generating elements are formed and a surface of said flow-path-forming base plate opposed to the surface on which said discharge energy-generating elements are formed in said respective supply path,

said ink jet recording head is provided with a flow path structure ~~having the flow path sectional area right angled to the~~ so configured that, for each of said supply paths, a

cross-sectional area thereof perpendicular to a liquid flow direction becoming the narrowest is smallest between said respective bubbling chamber and the through-opening,

and said flow path structure ~~changes with difference in level with respect to the direction perpendicular to the face of said element base plate having said discharge energy-generating elements formed thereon~~ is provided with (i) a first structure for closing a part of each of said supply paths, said first structure being formed on the surface of said element base plate having said discharge energy-generating elements formed thereon, and (ii) a second structure formed on said flow-path-forming base plate to be a columnar structure extending from said first structure, said second structure also being for closing a part of each of said supply paths.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording head according to Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a shape of the a portion of the flow a supply path cross-section right angled perpendicular to the liquid flow path direction having the narrowest flow path smallest cross-sectional area is square.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording head according to Claim 1, wherein said first structure comprises one or more square columns, and said second structure comprises one or more columns.

8. (Currently Amended) An ink jet recording head according to Claim 1, wherein the bubbles generated by said discharge energy-generating elements are communicated with the air outside for discharging liquid droplets.

9. (New) An ink jet recording head comprising:

an element substrate having a plurality of discharge energy-generating elements for generating bubbles in liquid by thermal energy and a through-opening becoming a supply chamber for leading liquid to said discharge energy-generating elements;

a discharge port plate opposed to said element substrate and having a plurality of discharge ports opposed to said plurality of discharge energy-generating elements, respectively;

a plurality of supply paths provided in a space sandwiched by said element substrate and said discharge port plate, for supplying liquid to said plurality of discharge ports, respectively, from said through-opening;

a plurality of columnar structures provided for said plurality of supply paths, respectively, and extending from a side of said element substrate to a side of said discharge port plate,

wherein, for each of said supply paths, a diameter of said discharge port is not greater than a height of said supply path, and

for each of said supply paths, one end of said respective columnar structure is provided on a structural member formed in said supply path to extend across an entire width of the supply path observed from a cross-section of the supply path perpendicular to a direction in which said supply path extends, so that a length of a gap between adjacent columns of said columnar structure, in a height direction of said supply path, is shorter than a diameter of said discharge port.

10. (New) An ink jet recording head comprising:

an element substrate having a plurality of discharge energy-generating elements for generating bubbles in liquid by thermal energy and a through-opening becoming a supply chamber for leading liquid to said discharge energy-generating elements;

a discharge port plate opposed to said element substrate and having a plurality of discharge ports opposed to said plurality of discharge energy-generating elements, respectively;

a plurality of supply paths provided in a space sandwiched by said element substrate and said discharge port plate, for supplying liquid to said plurality of discharge ports, respectively, from said through-opening;

a plurality of columnar structures provided corresponding to said plurality of supply paths, respectively, each of said columnar structures being disposed between an end portion of a respective supply path at a side of said through-opening and said through-opening, said columnar structures extending from a side of said element substrate to a side of said discharge port plate,

wherein, for each of said supply paths, a diameter of said discharge port is not greater than a height of said supply path, and

for each of said supply paths, one end of said respective columnar structure has a width larger than a width of said supply path, observed from a cross-section of said supply path perpendicular to a direction in which said supply path extends, and is formed on a structural member formed between a side of said supply path and said through-opening, so that a length of a gap between adjacent columns of said columnar structure, in a height direction of said supply path, is shorter than a diameter of said discharge port.